

Proposal

- Add 49A Sight Committee as a Line Item on the 49A Foundation Budget

Statement of problem

- Lions aim to provide eye care to those who cannot afford it.
- VSP is no longer available.
- Individual clubs have limited resources to raise funds.
- It does not make sense for 20 plus small individual clubs batting their heads against the same wall inventing the same wheels when working together, they have more power and can put what is learned to the benefit of all.
- Individual clubs are not 501(c)(3) entities - donors want a tax deduction and that is only when donation is made to the 49A Lions Foundation.
- Some clubs have formed a related Foundation. The club foundation works by the vote of that club's members. Other clubs can not participate on a vote on other club's sight projects.
- Therefore, the only way that a district wide group of clubs can work together to raise funds is if the collected funds are received by the 49A Foundation who is a 501(c)(3) and can issue year end statements of donations.

Committee proposed solution

- 49A Vision committee would be composed of a representative from each of the 49A Lions Clubs who participate in vision programs. If a club that has not offered vision programs in the past, started offering vision programs, a representative from that club would be invited to join the committee. There would be no obligation on any club to participate, all 49A clubs would be welcome.
- 49A Vision committee would raise funds that would be received and held by the 49A Foundation.
- Sources of funds could include individuals, Alaska Foundations such as the Rasmussen Foundation, GoFundMe, Round up Your Payment programs offered by online shopping sites.
- The committee would receive and consider proposals from 49A clubs for assistance with vision activities.

- Individual clubs would be expected to fund their proposals to at least the 50% level and their proposal to the committee should be for no more than 50% of their project.
- The committee would meet and vote on individual club's requests.
- Proposals approved by the committee would be forwarded to the 49A Foundation with a recommendation for funding.
- The 49A Foundation would report to the committee on at least a quarterly basis, the funds received, funds paid out, and balance remaining.
- The 49A Foundation would accept the 49A Vision Committee as a "line item" in its budget.
- Once approval is granted the new committee would set up the guidelines for soliciting funds for the districts' sight projects. The 49A Sight committee would be the fundraising arm of the 49A Foundation for sight projects only.

Resolution for Providing a Method for 49A Lions Clubs to Work Together to Provide Vision Assistance to Needy Alaskans and for Addressing the Need for Fundraising for those Activities

Whereas 49A Lions aim to provide eye care to those Alaskans who cannot afford it;

Whereas funding through VSP certificates is now restricted to emergency situations and future availability is uncertain but known to be limited;

Whereas individual Lions Clubs have limited resources to raise funds;

Whereas individual Lions Clubs are not 501(c)(3) entities and donations are only tax deductible when made to 501(c)(3) entities and many donors want their donation to be tax deductible;

Whereas Lions Clubs working together have more persuasive influence and can share what is learned to the benefit of all;

Resolved, that the 49A Lions Foundation:

1. approve the formation of the 49A Vision Committee composed of a representative from each of the 49A Lions Clubs. Voting members of the Committee to consist of one Lion from each of the Lions Clubs currently offering vision assistance programs. Lions Clubs not currently providing vision programs will be invited to join with their one voting member when they start offering vision assistance programs. There is no obligation on any club to participate. All 49A Lions Club members are welcome to participate in 49A Vision Committee meetings as guests;
2. assign the following duties to the 49A Vision Committee
 - a. conduct fund raising activities for vision assistance on behalf of the 49A Lions Foundation;
 - b. receive and consider proposals from 49A Lions Clubs for assistance with vision activities. Individual clubs are expected to fund their proposals to at least the 50% level;
 - c. meet, consider and vote on individual Lions Club's requests;
 - d. forward approved Lions Club requests to the 49A Foundation with a recommendation to fund;
3. The 49A Foundation agrees to provide the following assistance to the 49A Vision Committee:
 - a. accept the 49A Vision Committee as a "line item" in its budget;
 - b. receive funds raised by the 49A Vision Committee and issue yearend receipts to donors;
 - c. consider requests of recommended proposals received from the 49A Vision Committee;
 - d. vote on and fund approved proposals;
 - e. maintain an accounting of receipt and disposition of funds received;
 - f. report to the 49A Vision Committee on at least a quarterly basis the funds received, funds paid out, and balance of remaining funds;
 - g. consider other assistance to the 49A Vision Committee when requested.